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1913/14

Columbia University Library
School of Library Service
May 4 '39

1/26/15

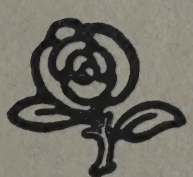
FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT

OF THE

OAKLAND FREE LIBRARY



THE LIBRARY OF THE
APR 9 1942
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1913-1914
OAKLAND, - - CALIFORNIA

THE LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

CARNEGIE BUILDING—THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT

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APR 9 1942
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FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1913-1914
OAKLAND, - - CALIFORNIA

ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OAKLAND FREE LIBRARY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

JOHN F. MULLINS — F. W. FOSS

W. B. BRIDGE — J. M. KELLEY

DANIEL J. MURPHY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE OAKLAND FREE LIBRARY

		Term Expires.
FRANK M. PARCELLS, President	318 Lee St.	1919
SAMUEL HUBBARD	244 Montecito Ave.	1920
JOHN W. EVANS	604 E. 14th St.	1915
CARY HOWARD	328 29th St.	1916
SAM BELL McKEE	225 Vernon St.	1917

CHARLES S. GREENE, Librarian and Secretary of the Board.

MARY BARMBY, Chief of Department.

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA

OAKLAND FREE LIBRARY—THE CARNEGIE BUILDING, 14TH AND GROVE STREETS

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1913/14

STAFF OF COUNTY DEPARTMENT JULY 1, 1914

COUNTY DEPARTMENT.

Mary Barmby ..... Chief
Jean D. Baird ..... First Assistant
Ethelbert Jerome ..... Assistant

COUNTY BRANCHES.

Albany ..... E. S. Hamilton, Attendant
Rosa E. Diehl, Janitor
Altamont ..... T. M. Egan, Attendant
Alvarado ..... Albert Norris, Attendant
Alviso ..... F. M. George, Attendant
Centerville ..... Mabel Yates, Attendent
Decoto ..... Elizabeth Williams, Attendant
Dublin ..... W. S. Lawrence, Attendant
Hayward ..... Elizabeth Creelman, Attendant
Irvington ..... Josephine Blacow, Attendant
Livermore ..... Myrtle Harp, Attendant
Mission San Jose ..... Dr. T. A. Nichols, Attendant
Mt. Eden ..... Sophie Engelund, Attendant
Newark ..... Mabel Fowler, Attendant
Niles ..... E. M. Nichols, Attendant
Pleasanton ..... S. A. Young, Attendant
San Lorenzo ..... M. E. Brommage, Attendant
Sunol ..... Mary Buttner, Attendant
Warm Springs ..... Joseph Brown, Attendant

9042 Columbia Univ Lib 1913/14 cmd

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance, of which $197.77 was held in trust for schools	$ 299.15

RECEIPTS.

Received from County Treasurer, July 1, 1913, to June 30, 1914, at $1250.00 per month for 5 months and $1500.00 for 7 months	$16,750.00
Received from Albany	30.00
Overdraft due Oakland Free Library	4.24
	$17,083.39

EXPENDITURES.

Salaries	$ 6,801.31
Books	5,164.56
Binding	236.55
Printing	89.75
Furniture	606.85
Express	121.37
Traveling	198.05
Office Supplies	128.62
Periodicals	692.03
Views and Pictures	374.20
Messenger	32.97
Building and Repair	119.62
Light and Heat	102.51
Rent	258.00
Incidentals	110.75
Janitor	46.25
For Use of Oakland Library	2,000.00
	$17,083.39

REPORT OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF THE OAKLAND FREE LIBRARY

To the Honorable Board of Directors of the Oakland Free Library—

Gentlemen: The fourth annual report of the County Library work in Alameda County, is hereby presented.

Library work has been carried on in Alameda County since November, 1910, under a contract entered into between the County of Alameda through its Board of Supervisors, and the Oakland Free Library through its Board of Library Directors, to establish a County Library system and to work under Section 12 of the County Library Law, the Legislature of the State of California having passed a law April, 1909, permitting such co-operation. Twelve thousand dollars was given for the first year's work. In November, 1911, a new contract was agreed upon whereby the work would be enlarged and the added sum of $250 a month was given, making $15,000 a year. The same contract was continued in 1912. The work was carried on, but not much new work was started, as it took up all funds to keep up the standard of the year before. Again in November, 1913, a new contract was agreed upon, and $18,000 was given for the year. New branches were started and the service to the older branches much improved.

In 1911, the County Free Library Law was amended, and we are now working under Section 16 of this law. The only important change was the adding of the phrase "Including incorporated cities and towns therein."

We have now eighteen branches with reading rooms. These include the libraries placed in Livermore, Hayward, and Pleasanton town libraries. The reading rooms are well supplied with the current magazines and daily papers, and are open, in most cases, every afternoon and evening but one. Encyclopedias have been placed in the larger branches, also other reference books. The farmers' bulletins from the Government and important documents from the University of California are received.

There are two or three prints on the walls of even our smallest branches. Labels have been made for the frames of these pictures, to hold a slip, explaining the pictures and giving the artist's name and title of picture. There are between three and four thousand stereographic views in the County system and these are all in each of the branches at some time during the year. Two stereoscopes to be used with these views remain in each branch. The stereographs are an important feature of the library work, the subjects being so varied. All important countries of the world are represented by sets of about one hundred views. Then there are sets on the industries of the countries, sets on natural history, and one on battleships. The people who do not care to read, come to the branch to look at these stereographs. Teachers use them in connection with their geography work in the schools. Panama and Mexico are in the greatest demand at present.

We found the radioptican purchased the year before had proved so satisfactory that we decided to add to this department. So a balopticon was

purchased. This is much like the radioptican, but we felt possibly a little in advance in results.

These machines with instructions for their use are sent out to the branches to remain for a few weeks. Post cards in sets are sent also, which the machines reflect and enlarge. Someone in the community is always found who is willing to explain the cards and make the evenings enjoyable. These picture-evening entertainments are open to every one, though they are almost too modest to be called entertainments.

Some fourteen colored Berlin prints have been purchased for the County. These will be sent from branch to branch so the entire County may enjoy them.

A branch was established at Albany in December. The people of the community rented the room on Main Street and furnished the tables, chairs and book cases. The room is very attractive, the attendance and circulation satisfactory. Mrs. Elizabeth S. Hamilton is the efficient attendant. Her knowledge of people and books makes her a valuable addition to our County staff. The town trustees pay $5 a month toward buying books, and show in many ways their interest in their new library.

A branch was opened in Dublin, May 21st. The library occupies a room in the store facing the main road. Mr. Green, the owner of the building, had burlap put on the walls and a window and door put in so that the library is quite an attractive place. Mrs. Lawrence is the attendant. Here, as in every library we have started, we had a public opening. The people came from all about in numbers, until we wondered where they had all come from.

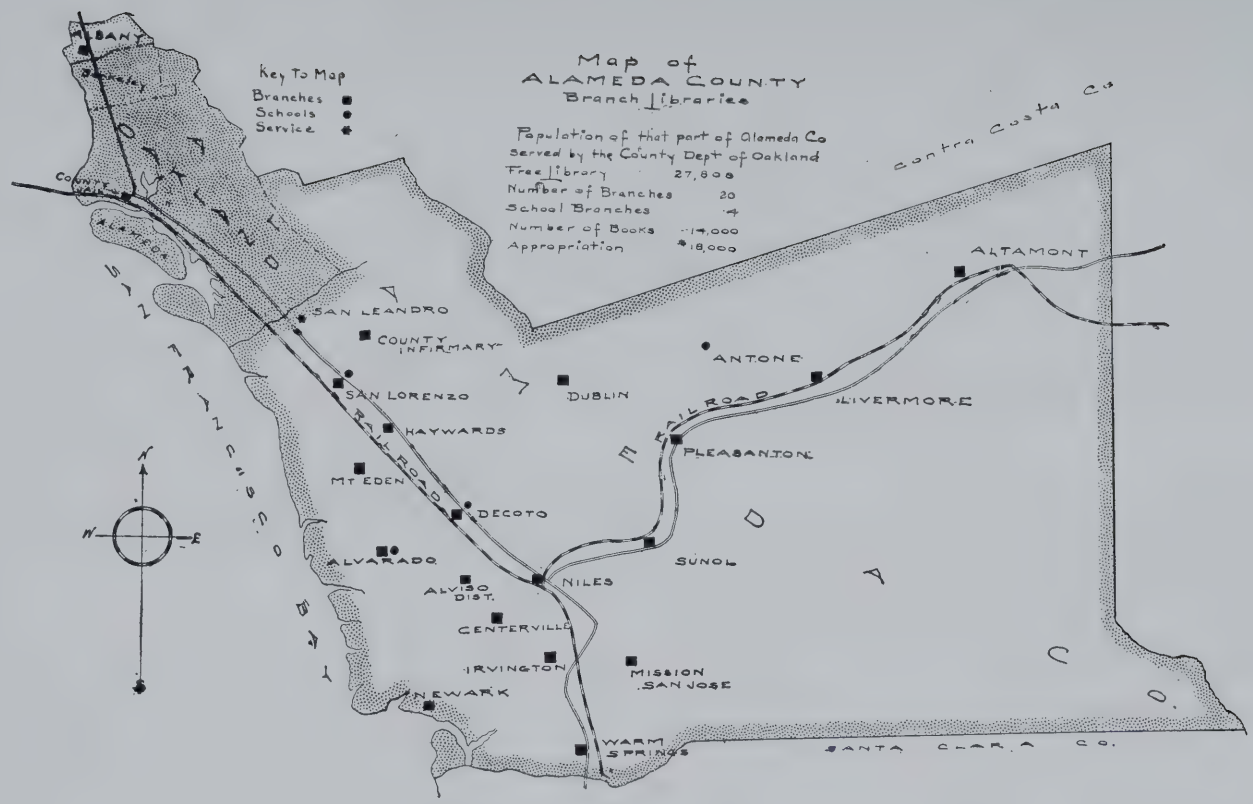
For some time we had a deposit of books at Alviso school attended to by the principal. This did very well, but we decided in June to make it a regular branch library, so we have a room in the home of Mrs. Frank George. This room is open to the street and is used only for the library. Mrs. George is the attendant. The district is quite thickly settled and we expect will make good use of the books and the reading room. Mr. Greene spoke at the opening here, as he did at the opening at Albany.

Mrs. Runckel, the attendant at Niles, resigned in July and Mrs. Nichols was appointed to fill the place. Mrs. Nichols' work has been most satisfactory, as the steady growth of the Niles library shows.

The library at Irvington moved into new rooms in March. Formerly we had one large room, too large to heat or light properly. The present place is next door and is better adapted to the library needs. We have two rooms and better lighting. The quarters at San Lorenzo became so crowded that it was necessary to move to a larger room in the same building, the village hall. The reading room is generally well filled with magazine and newspaper readers both afternoons and evenings. The circulation from here is larger than any other branch of its size in the County.

In Alvarado we were fortunate in having a vacant room next to our library room. The partition was taken down, making it one large room.

Meetings of the attendants have been held in the County Library office in Oakland. At these meetings we talk over and work out the problems that are always present. We plan new work and criticise the work done.


Map of
ALAMEDA COUNTY
Branch Libraries
Key To Map
Branches
Schools
Service
Population of that part of Alameda Co
Served by the County Dept of Oakland
Free library 27,800
Number of Branches 20
School Branches 4
Number of Books 14,000
Appropriation $18,000
Contra Costa Co
OAKLAND
ALAMEDA
SAN FRANCISCO BAY
SAN LEANDRO
COUNTY INFIRMARY
SAN LORENZO
HAYWARDS
MT EDEN
DECOTO
ALVARADO
ALVISO DIST.
NILES
CENTERVILLE
IRVINGTON
NEWARK
MISSION SAN JOSE
WARM SPRINGS
DUBLIN
ANTONE
ALTAMONT
LIVERMORE
PLEASANTON
SUNOL
RAIL ROAD
ALAMEDA CO.
SANTA CLARA CO.

The work with the County Jail has grown during the past year. We have a messenger service twice a week. The prisoners make their requests and the boy fills them from the Oakland Library. There is no collection of books in the jail. We continue to borrow books from the State Library for the Law Library, whenever lawyers of Alameda County require material not in the County. Books ready for discard have been sent out every month to the County Infirmary, to be read there and then burned at the discretion of the attending doctor. A few phonograph records have been sent to Altamont on their request, as they had a machine in the community which they could use. Altamont has no electricity, so could not have the benefit of the radioptican and the records were sent to make up for this loss.

Some work has been done with Alameda and Berkeley in the way of supplying special books, and in Alameda in the loaning of pictures.

Post cards with the map of Alameda County on the back have been printed for use in correspondence. The map shows the location of the libraries and gives a few figures.

The County Library had a booth at the Alameda County fair last year and this year plans to be represented.

The circulation of books in the County has been steadily increasing, amounting to about one thousand a month more than last year. The special requests coming from our people and from other libraries in the State, have been very large. We have been able to fill these requests from our library, the Oakland Library, and the State Library.

The problem of properly housing our libraries will need to be considered in the near future. The present rooms in many cases are too small. With larger space better work can be done. We hope to find the people of the towns ready to help when the time comes.

The County Library in California has well passed the experimental stage, and has become a strong factor in the twenty-six counties in which it is working, many of the counties growing in a remarkable way. Los Angeles, for instance, last year received $40,000 for the county work and this year expects to nearly double that amount.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY BARMBY,
Chief of Department.

STATISTICS

Number of borrowers—established branches	3,689	
Number of borrowers—County at large	1,159	
Total number of books sent to stations	~~12,002~~ 13,015	
Circulation of stations	66,529	
Total number of books sent to schools	1,020	
Total number of books in office	1,354	
Count of bound volumes, July 6, 1913		10,444
Accessions—		
By purchase	4,667	
By gift	227	4,894
		15,338
Discarded	35	
Lost	36	71
		15,267
Borrowed from Teachers' Library		122
Total bound volumes, July, 1914		15,389

Branches—	Date of Opening.	Borrowers.	Books.	Circulation Books.	Circulation Mags.
Albany	Dec. 4, 1913	235	761	3,206	305
Altamont	April 2, 1912	102	406	1,513	810
Alvarado	Dec. 7, 1910	193	1,060	2,775	1,606
Centerville	Dec. 2, 1910	291	1,199	4,805	1,936
Decoto	Dec. 11, 1910	246	765	2,508	484
Dublin	May 21, 1914	33	144	(no report)	
Irvington	April 4, 1911	161	765	2,683	139
Mission San Jose	Dec. 10,1910	78	710	2,191	1,132
Mt. Eden	Feb. 1, 1911	125	755	1,523	52
Newark	Sept. 4, 1911	164	904	3,258	480
Niles	Feb. 2, 1911	459	1,099	8,256	1,848
San Lorenzo	Dec. 1, 1910	305	1,113	4,852	1,163
Sunol	Dec. 9, 1910	108	674	1,985	1,110
Warm Springs	Feb. 20, 1912	79	400	916	131
Deposit Stations—					
Alviso	Feb. 27, 1911	53	100	343	97
Hayward	April 12, 1911	457	789	6,037	.....
Livermore	Sept., 1911	464	727	5,142	.....
Pleasanton	May 29, 1911	136	644	2,361	120
Request Books—					
County Jail	July, 1911			481	2
San Leandro				238	
Inter-Library				41	
		3689	13,015	55,114	11,415
Borrowers—County at large		1159			
Books in office and schools			2,374		
		4,848	15,389	55,114	11,415

THE LIBRARY OF THE
APR 9 1942
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Enquirer Oakland

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1925/26
Lib Sch

Oakland Free Library

INCLUDING

Oakland Art Gallery

Oakland Public Museum

AND

Snow African Collection

Report for 1925-1926

COURTESY OAKLAND OBSERVER

MAGDALEN — CORREGGIO

Loaned to Oakland Art Gallery by Dr. Wm. S. Porter.

Oakland Free Library

INCLUDING

Oakland Art Gallery

Oakland Public Museum

AND

Snow African Collection

Report for 1925-1926

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

		Term Expires
WILLIAM G. EGGLESTON	5345 Manila Ave.	1928
	PRESIDENT	
RUSSELL LOWRY	665 Vernon St.	1927
	VICE-PRESIDENT	
MYRTLE E. FIEBERLING	1418 East 32nd St.	1929
CLAUD GATCH	Hotel Oakland	1930
MINNA McGAULEY	2736 Orange Ave.	1932

Oakland Free Library
Library Service July 1, 1926

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Chas. S. Greene, Librarian; Frederick I. Bamford, Associate Librarian Emeritus; Mabel W. Thomas, Assistant Librarian; Elsie Schaufler, Order Assistant; Alice M. Gauge, Division Accountant.

CIRCULATION AND REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Caroline K. Louderback, Chief; Katherine D. Jones, First Assistant; Wilcy Seaman, Helen B. Lake, Cecilia Feeley, Lorelei Rothberg, Assistants.

REFERENCE AND DOCUMENT DEPARTMENT

Mabel W. Thomas, Chief; Jennie M. Fenton, First Assistant Reference Department; Leona Alexander, Document First Assistant; Marguerite E. Rodgers, Marie Bunce, Irene M. Farrell, Linda A. Kemp, Assistants.

CATALOG DEPARTMENT

Edith O. Stetson, Chief; Grace Ransome, Assistant Cataloger; Josephine DeWitt, Assistant.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Nettie V. Morgan, Chief; Elvezia Lorenzini, Assistant.

MAGAZINE AND MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Edith A. Hibberd, First Assistant; Albert Zinkand, Evening Attendant.

BOOKMENDING DEPARTMENT

Minnie Spilman, Chief; Belle Pratt, Harriet Mincher, Claire McConkey, Bookmenders.

Marie Kelton Fry, Printer.

SUBSTITUTES

Ruth Allison, Mary E. Bamford, Laura Barkley, Berneice Bergman, Ruth Bulfinch, Millicent Cox, Marjorie W. Hansen, Marialice Howe, Dorothy Jones, Edina Kaas, Florence Little, Louise McGovern, Louise Martin, Vivienne Merrill, Orrielle Murphy, Ruth Redfield, Helen Rhein, Stella Shatzkin, Ruth Thomas, Gertrude H. Warwick, Ruth E. Weeks, Alice N. Williams, Thelma Willard.

JANITORS

Ira E. Lawson, Library Janitor; Stephen J. Duncan, Watchman and Janitor; Ivan Clinesmith, Assistant Janitor; Edmund O'Neil, Lucas Starr, Substitute Janitors. Carnegie Branch Building Janitors: Alden, O. A. Goddard; Golden Gate, Mary A. Starr; Melrose, John C. Ellsworth; 23d Avenue, C. E. Dougherty.

MESSENGERS

Oliver Jensen, Automobile Messenger to Branches; John Ellisen, Jean Reedy, Nick Clecak, Messengers; Baxter Todd, Substitute Messenger.

BRANCH DEPARTMENT

Lucie C. Nye, Chief; Clara N. Bishop, First Assistant; Olive Hartley, Veronica Sexton, Harriet E. Hannon, Adah Chidlaw, Assistants.

BRANCHES

Branch	Librarian	Assistant
Alden	Jane Isabel Curtis	Evelyn A. Williams
Allendale	Helen H. Rand	----------
Dimond	Louise A. Schaufler	Josephine Jenkinson
East Oakland	Elizabeth Ross	Mildred M. Kelley
Elmhurst	Alice B. Dodge	Genevieve W. Wilson
Fruitvale	Mary Masterson	Beulah Masterson
Golden Gate	Estella P. Mincher	Lillian N. Campbell
Melrose	Jeannette C. Anderson	Eileen Curas
North Oakland	Alice E. Armstrong	Mary E. McClure
Piedmont Avenue	Katherine I. Gray	Anita S. Johnson
Rockridge	Emma P. Davies	Hattie B. Morrison
Twenty-third Avenue	Emily H. Overstreet	Gertrude F. Howell
West Oakland	Edith A. Burges	Elizabeth Wheeler

DEPOSIT STATION ATTENDANTS

Alexander, Adah Chidlaw; Columbian Park, Clara M. Van Sant; General Electric, Nell Smith; Lockwood, Gertrude H. Warwick; McChesney, Adah Chidlaw; Montgomery-Ward, Doris Crawford; Stonehurst, Angie Webster.

OAKLAND ART GALLERY, Municipal Auditorium

William H. Clapp, Curator; Florence W. Lehre, Assistant Curator.

OAKLAND PUBLIC MUSEUM, 1426 Oak Street

Susie W. Mott, Assistant Curator and Director Pro Tem; Samuel Hubbard, Honorary Curator Archaeology; C. W. Hill, Assistant; Laura Bower, Attendant; W. T. Brunker, Watchman and Janitor; Etta M. Collyer, Laura W. Van Wicklin, Anna Zadielovich, Substitutes.

SNOW AFRICAN MUSEUM, 274—19th Street

H. A. Snow, Honorary Curator; Nydine Snow, Assistant; John Adams, Taxidermist; Chas. A. Hill, Henry E. Basler, Mechanics; Stephen G. Starr, Caretaker; Catherine Dunlap, Substitute.

Report of the Board of Library Directors

To the Honorable
The City Council of
Oakland, California.

Gentlemen:

When the term of Director Minna McGauley expired on June 30, 1926, she was appointed for a full six-year term, beginning July 1st, by His Honor the Mayor, and thus the personnel of the Board remains unchanged.

On account of an increased, but still too small, book fund the Board is able to report progress in the Library service. The incessant and insistent demands of the public, especially the children, have been met in greater degree because of a larger and better supply of books.

Endowing public libraries is becoming a practice, especially in the eastern States, and it is a pleasure to note that many of the large libraries east of the Mississippi are heavily endowed with funds for books and other purposes. It is an inexpensive and very useful way of creating a perpetual memorial, to set aside a sum of ten thousand or twenty thousand dollars, or even more, to maintain a supply of books of a certain class, each book bearing a memorial book plate. Some years ago such an income was set aside, year by year, by Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Gibson as a memorial to their son, H. D. W. Gibson, whose well selected library was given to Melrose Branch Library. That is the only endowment ever made to our Library, and we regret that this fund has been withdrawn, after a term of six years, so that we enter the new fiscal year with no income except from taxes and the small amount derived from fines.

However it is a pleasure to say that during the last year Mr. Gibson gave $520 for books for the Rockridge Branch, in addition to the $2000 he had previously given for the same purpose. The very large increase in the circulation of the Rockridge Branch during the fiscal year, 88,881, which exceeded that of the previous fiscal year by more than 25,000, is a striking illustration of the fact that library service consists for the most part in keeping a supply of desirable books, and that the people of Oakland appreciate such books.

It is with regret that we are unable to report progress in the matter of a building for the Snow African collection, but we hope that something may be done in that direction during the current fiscal year, all the more because a recent serious, and for a time desperate, illness of Mr. H. A. Snow caused us great anxiety lest he should not live to see his fine collection suitably housed. Moreover, the fire hazard is very great, and it would be almost impossible to replace the valuable material brought from Africa by Mr. Snow. A recent small blaze on the roof of the old building has called attention to the danger from fire.

Just before the close of the fiscal year Mr. Charles S. Greene, Librarian for twenty-seven years, and Mrs. Caroline K. Louderback, head of the Circulation Department and a member of the Library Staff for thirty-one years, were retired at their own re-

quest by your honorable body, on half pay, to take effect December 31st and September 30th, 1926, respectively. After their long years of faithful service they will be missed by the Staff and the public.

Herewith we present the reports of the various departments of the Library for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM G. EGGLESTON, President.
RUSSELL LOWRY, Vice-President.
MYRTLE E. FIEBERLING.
CLAUD GATCH.
MINNA McGAULEY

Librarian's Report

To the Honorable
The Board of Directors
of the Oakland Free Library.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have the honor to present my report for the forty-eighth year of the Library and the twenty-seventh of my service as Librarian, from July 1, 1925, to June 30, 1926.

An appropriation for Library purposes of about $15,000 more than last year has made it possible to record growth in the library's activities, though the *per capita* allowance is still less than fifty-five cents, instead of the one dollar, which library authorities declare to be the miminum for which full service can be given. This continued shortage in the straw from which our bricks are made accounts for the wistful tone in some of the departmental reports that follow. The slight increase in salary rates effective in January, 1926, took about half of the added income and the book fund was given most of the balance, though certain repairs to buildings and needed furniture had to be included.

The principal physical improvement of the year was the moving of the Allendale Branch to more suitable quarters on the opposite side of Thirty-eighth Avenue.

Columbian Park Station, established the year before, has rolled up a circulation of 14,415, which is nearly up to the largest Station, Lockwood, with 15,360. For the new year it is hoped that at least one regular branch and one or two stations may be possible.

STAFF

Two deaths of its members have saddened the staff, Mrs. Harriett Hill, for many years the head of the Melrose Branch, and Mrs. Elsie Leclert, head of the Children's Department. Both of these ladies were highly respected and deeply beloved, and the staff heard the reports of their long illnesses and final release with great sympathy.

Miss Morgan took Mrs. Leclert's place at the beginning of the year, and her report, to be given later, justifies her appointment. Miss Katharine Gray and Miss Helen Rand were appointed Branch heads at Piedmont Avenue and Allendale respectively, Miss Gray taking Miss Morgan's place and Miss Rand that of Miss Anderson, who was transferred to Melrose *vice* Mrs. Hill. In the main library Mrs. Feeley, Miss Rothberg, and Miss DeWitt, substitutes, were promoted to the assistant grade, and Miss McConkey was made a bookmender. Albert Zinkand took Kenneth G. Hook's place as evening attendant in the Magazine Room when the latter resigned.

Civil Service examinations for substitute were held August 19, 1925, and March 25, 1926, and for assistant on August 18 and March 26. In each case good material was obtained. All of the substitutes who were available have been given appointments, but the assistant's eligible list still contains a number of names.

Coming now to Department reports, that of the Circulation Department is fuller than usual, as it is the last that Mrs. Louderback, who has served the Library for thirty-one years, will write. She has at her own request been retired on half pay, to take effect October 1, 1926.

CIRCULATION AND REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Louderback reports:

The Circulation Department reports a tremendous activity during this past year. It is hard to assemble facts for a report, but figures speak for themselves. The total number of books loaned this year reached 1,114,245, a record year.

The reserved books also show a gain over last year, 5083 more were reserved during 1925–1926 than in 1924–25. Every week State Library books are sent for, the calls and postals for these books being most carefully made out, according to State Library rules. I feel that this reserve book work should be given to one assistant, whose whole duty should be this work and this alone.

The only change in the staff of this department has been the appointing of Cecilia Feeley, October 15, and Lorelei Rothberg, December 1st, to the post of assistant, in the place of Anita S. Johnson and Eileen Curas, transferred to branches. These have proved to be most satisfactory appointments.

Our hardest problem is, how to satisfy our readers with books wanted and asked for, from a fund by far inadequate. The book committee rejects all fiction but the very best. Books reviewed over the Radio on Monday evening, are clamored for by the public every Tuesday morning; but a dozen copies would not satisfy the demand. If we have the book, which is often the case, the first party who asks receives it, but it would not be wise to purchase a dozen or more copies only to have them stand neglected on our shelves later on.

The registration department has ceased to use a number on the borrowers cards. Tally is kept each day of members, new, renewed, or discontinued. This number is, however, less than formerly, and is more a number by households than by members. Since the use of extra book slips, each person being allowed three, it has not been necessary for each family to have six or seven or more personal cards, all kept in use. With the use of our book slips, one or two family cards will suffice.

We have many reading lists to loan the public. Lists of California stories, mystery and detective, dog stories, out-door and western, sea and adventure, and many others. To make these lists has taken time and patience on the part of the assistants in this department, but we find these lists of great use to the public in their choice of books. While a goodly number of juvenile books are taken by the teachers, on the whole the number of teachers using our Library for books for class work is comparatively small. Of the books of fiction we could use a dozen copies of John Halifax, Ramona, Mill-on-the-Floss, Treasure Island, etc., each scholar being obliged to read these books for individual reviews.

Fines are a legitimate part of the Library economy. Last year the amount collected was $6718.45, which may be accounted as all going into the book fund. Perhaps if all patrons knew that the book fund was so materially helped, they would be more willing and glad to pay their indebtedness.

Our scrap book of Library news, has I think never been mentioned or noticed in any Report, but six large books are to be found here in the Library, containing all the history of this institution. Clipped from the daily papers, and kept in order as to date, all articles pertaining to the Library, good, bad, or otherwise, are cut out and sorted and pasted in the scrap book for reference at any time. Some very curious and interesting data will be found in these volumes.

The circulation book is another slighted but worthy volume. Each day's entry consists of all the books loaned,—class, fiction, or juvenile,— each entered by itself so that the Librarian may tell at a glance what sort of book is most popular.

and how many loaned each day and month and year. During March in the Main Library we loaned over one thousand books per day.

I have written this report at some length, since next year a new hand will wield my scepter of authority, and a new hand will write the report. I feel many regrets at leaving my tried and true and fond associates. I have spent a life time of busy and happy hours here in the Library and made hundreds of friends during the years of my service.

I only hope that my successor may be as happy in her work as I have always been in mine, that I shall not be forgotten, that the dear girls in my own immediate department, at least, will learn the lesson the years have taught me, and will find

"Books in the running brooks,
Sermons in the stones
And good in everything.".

REFERENCE AND DOCUMENT DEPARTMENT

Miss Thomas reports:

With an increase of 70 per cent in its appropriation for the purchase of books, this department began the year with a promise of increased activity which the statistical reports show to have been fulfilled. Large additions to the book stock were urgently needed, and all but a small balance of our fund was expended during the first six months. The remainder was quite insufficient to satisfy the persistent demand for new current publications, and we were able to do almost nothing in the way of rounding out the various classes by systematic buying of older titles.

A small portion of the surplus was spent for books in foreign languages, of which we had been able to purchase very few since the war. More considerable additions were made to the business and technical books, but even here the demand would have justified a much larger expenditure than was permitted by our income. The close of the year finds us with the usual bulky accumulation of wanted titles awaiting funds for purchase. We have asked for $15,000 increase in this department's apportionment for books, and it is by no means an extravagant request in view of the growing needs of the City and expansion of our Branch system, which makes its daily demand upon the supply of circulating books at the main Library.

Such purchases as were made for the California reference collection were largely needed duplicate copies of books still in print. The few rare items acquired were secured by gift or at trifling cost. A complete file of "The grizzly bear", official organ of the Native Sons and Native Daughters, which had been bought some years ago, was bound and placed on the California shelves. It is most unfortunate that this interesting and valuable group of books must, for lack of space, be kept hidden from public view.

This is but one of many inconveniences which the users of the Library must suffer because of the small size and antiquated plan of the main Library Building. Only by the most careful contrivance, by frequent shifting of classes and by weeding out of less used material, has it been possible to continue the work in our present quarters, and these problems of administration must inevitably increase in difficulty. We have exhausted all available space in the rented offices across the street, and have definitely reached the point where it is no longer possible to expand. We have now before us only the calamitous choice of discarding or storing material needed in our daily service to the public, and it will immediately be necessary to transfer valuable files of older magazines, newspapers, etc., to some place where they will not be available for consultation.

Seating space for readers is also hopelessly inadequate. At the busier times

of the day many who desire to read in the Library are compelled to go away because there is literally not one vacant chair to be found in any of the public rooms.

There has not developed during the present year any one all-absorbing topic of popular interest. Instead there has been a more wholesome demand for a great variety of subjects. Contemporary poetry and serious modern plays are still in very large request. Books on commercial art, on furniture and interior decoration, on real estate, on salesmanship, on the art of investment, on a thousand technical subjects, we can not begin to supply in sufficient numbers. There has been no one most popular book of the year, but each of the following titles has for a time held first place in our reserve lists:

Amy Lowell's "Life of Keats," "Paul Bunyan," by James Stevens, "The new decalogue of science," by Albert E. Wiggam. "From immigrant to inventor," by Michael Pupin, "Why we behave like human beings," by George A. Dorsey, "The man nobody knows," by Bruce Barton, "The revolt of modern youth," by Benjamin Barr Lindsey, and "The Rosalie Evans letters from Mexico."

Our statistics show that the loss of books by theft continues at an alarming rate. Certain classes and certain titles we have found it impossible to keep at all on open shelves. In this number are included the California codes, technical receipt and formula books, works on stocks, bonds and investing, illustrated magazines on interior decoration, books on aviation, on chemical technology, on cats, on real estate, on radio, on palmistry, on parliamentary law, on anatomy, on automobiles, on names for the new baby, on refrigeration, on etiquette, on blue-prints, on "beauty culture," and textbooks on all subjects. A hundred others could be mentioned. Our small available closed-shelf space is crowded, and how to safeguard future accessions in these classes is one of our most puzzling problems.

The usual large volume of routine work occupied all time not actually spent in attending to the wants of readers. More extensive use was made of page service in the work of shelving, filing, etc., with very satisfactory results. There were 4127 documents cataloged, and 2739 miscellaneous pamphlets and maps were either cataloged or prepared for the vertical file. Current periodicals filed numbered 576, together with many clippings, of which no count is made. Over 4000 cards were written for catalog and shelf-list, and more than 8500, for the various indexes at the Reference desk.

The compiling of reading lists on California authors was continued. A list on the history of California literature was prepared at the request of the Committee of the Oakland School Department in charge of activities for the Diamond Jubilee year, and was published in the bulletin compiled by them for the "Course of study series," Oakland public schools. For the use of the many study goups in our local Parent-Teacher Associations the Reference Librarian made annotated lists on children of pre-school age and on the psychology of adolescence. These were mimeographed and sent out by the Chief of the Children's department in the course of co-operation with the Mother's Clubs.

The "Municipal bulletin" was issued quarterly, and the cards used in its compilation were filed to form an index on civic affairs supplementary to the card catalog. Over 500 pamphlets were acquired for the municipal collection, and our file of Oakland clippings was kept up-to-date at the expense of no inconsiderable amount of labor. We are now making every effort to obtain all available material on the subject of county government in the United States, for the use of those who will frame the proposed home rule charter for Alameda County and for the information of the public.

The Document department is indebted to Congressman Carter for many val-

uable federal documents received in addition to those which come to us as a depository library. Very much appreciated by the many users of the "Patent Office gazette" is his gift of a second copy of that periodical, which enables us to keep one always available for consultation while the other is at the bindery.

The year has been signalized by a change in the closing time of the Reference room. Begining with the evening of November 2d, the room has remained open until 10:00 P. M. A count of readers at the tables at 9:15 P. M., and again at 9:45, showed an average during the busier season of 25 at 9:15 and of 11 at 9:45. During the summer months the attendance has declined to 17 and 8, respectively. The number remaining for the last hour has not been so large as was anticipated, but the extension of time has undoubtedly been of very real service to the few serious readers who desire to remain in the Library after 9:00 o'clock.

CATALOG DEPARTMENT

Miss Stetson reports:

As shown by the accompanying figures, our chief work this year has been with new books.

The re-cataloging has been principally with travel. The subdivisions have been brought down during previous years, but the main classes were untouched. In these we found many interesting additions to the collection of Californiana, such as accounts of travel through the State or the West before 1850, and others of later date,—all of some special value in the study of early California life and history. Also a number of books were found having imprints dated one hundred years ago or more of enough variety or value to be placed with a separate collection, known as Z. Some re-cataloging of Juvenile books has been done in connection with the inventory upon which Miss Morgan has been working.

The revision of the index continues. It is a slow process. Much dead wood will be removed with the re-cataloging of the travel. Much remains to be found only with a card-by-card search. Much remains to be done in the final disposition of the cards for which no books are found. depending upon whether the books are to be replaced or counted as missing. We hope to complete most of this work during the summer vacation.

We are glad to have Miss DeWitt who has just graduated from the University of California, as assistant in the Department. This makes possible a much more efficient organization of the work of the Department, besides the extra assistance in the Reference department, which was needed.

CATALOG DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

	Titles	Copies	Cards Filed
New classed books	1661	2410	7634
Recataloged books	908	1215	4207
Pamphlets	144	313	——
Magazines	——	132	——
Maps	52	55	59
Music (inc. octavo music)	70	541	227
Fiction	583	1810	1679
Juvenile	474	1266	1749
	3892	7742	15555

Discards 1908

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Miss Morgan reports:

During this first year in the Children's Room, the present Chief has been getting her feet securely planted so as to be able to work to better advantage hereafter. She values what has been done by her predecessors, and appreciates the work of Miss Lorenzini, without whose help and knowledge of the previous history of the room everything would have been harder.

Owing to a larger book fund, the circulation has made a slight gain during the past year over any previous one, but the Juvenile circulation in the Branches has made so much greater a gain that we have to ask the reason. One undoubtedly is that the outlying districts are growing rapidly, filling up with homes, and the district around the main Library is becoming more and more a business center. This is likely to happen in any growing city, and it has its effect upon the character of the work done in the main Children's Room. In one organized as ours is, where the Children's work in the Branches is under a separate head and there is no regular policy of cooperation between the library and the schools, it could mean that the Children's Room would do less work as time went on. But we hope that may not be so here. Since there is the closest sympathy between the Main and Branch workers, we hope that this will become each year more useful to every organization in the City interested in young people.

We have worked towards that end this last year. This Department supervised the work of the whole library in connection with Good Book Week, compiled a graded list of books for one of the schools, which is also being used by the the Branches, and has worked as a unit with the Branches in the contact we have had with the Parent-Teacher Associations and Boy Scout organizations. Our Picture Department always has deen used chiefly by the Branches, and that work occupies half our time.

Having thus briefly outlined our cooperative work, we will now tell of it more in detail.

Usually Good Book Week is nearly over before people wake up to the fact that they may see exhibits of good collections and get hints for buying. This year we tried to arouse interest ahead of time. A month before, we sent letters to forty-five P. T. A. groups announcing exhibits and offering to furnish speakers on the subject of juvenile literature, and sent simliar letters to eighty-one Churches, asking that announcements be made also in the Church Bulletins. Over one thousand lists were distributed to schools, churches, and individuals. During the Week we had an exhibit in the Children's Room of books from Sather Gate, supplemented by our own. Three Branches also had exhibits for one day or more. Some of the schools had quite elaborate celebrations of the Week, worked up from suggestions furnished by the libraries. We furnished speakers for twenty-five meetings of the P. T. A., calling upon different members of the staff, and some speakers went to Churches. Articles were also published in the newspapers, with pictures of our room and exhibit. Many of the Branches had their own special celebrations. We have seen some definite results, the most valuable being probably the increased interest in and appreciation of the public libraries, on the part of many mothers. The Boy Scout Commissioner asked the libraries to have a special place for books for them, and this we provided as did the Branches. A Stamp Club was organized here at the main Library too, on the suggestion of a Boy Scout leader, its membership now being over eighty.

The contact with the schools near by is not very close, except through individ-

ual teachers. One sends one half her class each week to our room to read, though they have to come several blocks across the center of town. Instruction in the use of the Library was given the upper classes in one of the Junior High Schools. Considerable work with the teachers of Americanization classes has been done too. We have no system of furnishing classroom libraries to schools, but some do get deposits from us regularly.

In the work of our own room, we have made several changes, which have eliminated work in some cases and increased it in others. For example, the phone has been placed at the desk, the catalog moved to a position near by, and one typewriter placed on a movable table. These changes have saved hours of time. On the other hand we now have the books discharged in the Room as well as charged, which makes much more work. But it has advantages that compensate.

An inventory has been taken during the year, the first one for a long time. As yet there has been no digest made of what it revealed, but we found a very great loss of books, evidently by theft. We have also done what all libraries do constantly, discarded some of our old titles and substituted better, so as to keep our collection up to the highest standard. Intermediates have here, as everywhere, much need of help. We started a collection of fine editions of classic fiction and good wholesome stories for the older girl, to which we will add next year.

Half our time in the Children's Room has been spent on the picture collection. We have a fine set of large travel posters which have been stored just anywhere, because of no place to put them, but this year we have had made a large cabinet to hold them. They have been indexed and the cards filed in the picture catalog. Some of the mounted pictures have been recataloged also. During the year our pictures have been used by the artists who decorated the Tribune Building, and the splendid new Elks Building.

The year that is past has been full of interest, but we look forward to the year to come with more, for we hope to lift everything we do in our own room to a higher level, and expand its usefulness on the outside.

MAGAZINE AND MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Miss Hibberd reports:

We have been able during the past year to replace thirty-seven titles in our collection of Church Anthems. These have been in constant use since the gift of the Vesper collection in 1913, and each year finds it necessary to replace some of the worn out copies. Not only churches, but such other organizations as the Fabiola Hospital School, Berkeley Baptist Divinity School, Young Ladies Institute, Y. M. C. A., and other clubs, are making good use of the collection. One hundred forty-nine churches and organizations are now enrolled, and the average monthly circulation is 116 titles and 2062 copies.

We have had one notable gift, an autographed copy of the opera score of "Fay-Yen-Fah", the gift of the authors, Mr. Templeton Crocker and Mr. Joseph Redding Several opera scores and miscellaneous works have been purchased, needed to round out our collection.

We were not able to put in any additional shelving during the past year, but the need is becoming more and more urgent to care properly for the music collection. It is earnestly hoped that some relief in this matter will soon be possible.

Theft and mutilation of newspapers and periodicals still continues, and it has been necessary to add several important newspapers and magazines to those kept at the desk.

Periodicals received at the Library number 453 and Newspapers 88, and of this amount 116 magazines and 32 newspapers are gifts.

Mr. Hook, who had served as Evening Attendant for three years, resigned on May 1st, and his place was filled by Mr. Zinkand, who had served as Substitute in this Department and Messenger for the Branch Department.

BOOK MENDING DEPARTMENT

Miss Spilman reports:

Library

Books repaired	8879
Pamphlets put in Gaylord covers	695
Pamphlets put in Manila covers	2302
Maps, Posters, and Poems mounted	260
Music stitched and backed	656
Newspapers stitched	281
Books sent to bindery	2016
Magazines sent to bindery	172

Branches

Books repaired	23667
Books sent to bindery	5119

BRANCH DEPARTMENT

Miss Nye reports:

Through the generosity of a citizen of Oakland, plus an increased book fund for the Branches, we have been able to demonstrate this year, that, if "clothes do much to make the man", truly books are the clothing of the Library.

Last year the Branches and Stations made a gain of but 6,419 in circulation; this year the gain is over 66,000, and of this the Rockridge Branch claims more than one-third, or 25,474, with a circulation of 88,881. This is the largest circulation and the largest gain in circulation ever reported for any one Branch of the Oakland Library.

This Branch, formerly located in a very small store building, was moved about a year and half ago into a room previously occupied by a branch bank, a corner room of good proportions, well lighted, and in an excellent location in the business district of a growing community. Everything seemed favorable to rapid growth except the inadequate book supply. The people of the neighborhood, much interested in their library, had been most generous in aiding it with gifts of books and funds for the purchase of books, in addition to those supplied by the Library each year, but these were not enough. In March of 1925 Mr. C. W. Gibson presented the Branch with $1,000, and later gave it $1,520 more. This money was to be spent for books which the Branch needed; no other restrictions were placed upon the fund. The result in one year is shown by the figures given above, The books have been chosen with great care, in order to form a well-rounded collection, suitable for a Branch Library. They include up-to-date reference books and circulating non-fiction to meet the needs of many classes, including a number of expensive but very useful books for t heartist, the collector, and the homemaker; fiction, both of the lighter and the more serious type, and children's books. What a pleasure it has been to build up a real children's library, however small in numbers it may still be! Only the best titles and the best editions have been purchased, and these have been duplicated, when necessary, to meet the needs of the neighboring schools as well as those of the individual child. An interesting experiment has been made with books for the older

TWENTY-THIRD AVENUE BRANCH. ONE OF THE FOUR CARNEGIE BRANCHES.

boys and girls— the "intermediates." A number of titles, usually placed in an adult collection, but suitable for this age, were purchased in the most attractive editions available, marked with a little dot to aid in shelving, and placed in a separate alcove in the Branch. These books are in constant use, and an occasional inspection of the dating slips of the few found on the shelves shows a steady circulation of almost every book. Special collections were purchased for the Boy Scouts and the Camp Fire girls, and these too have been much appreciated. These are just "high lights" in "The Story of a Branch with Books", and the Library as a whole has rejoiced in the use which has been made of the increased facilities of this Branch.

The Melrose Branch continues to enjoy the collection of books, likewise given through Mr. Gibson's generosity, and the endowment which makes it possible to add to the collection annually. This year a number of children's books were purchased with a part of this fund, with a consequent increase in the juvenile circulation of that Branch.

The interest in children's books and reading shown by the Golden Gate Parent-Teacher Association in previous years, was manifested again this year by the purchase and gift to the Library of the exhibit of books made at the Branch during Children's Book Week. The study table maintained for the mothers in the Children's Room is in constant use, and request for bibliographies and special collections of books indicate the vital interest with which this subject is regarded.

The Dimond Branch, located, as has been noted in previous reports, in a rapidly growing community, and situated very near the business district, reports a circulation nearly as large as that of Rockridge, with a gain of 6,784 over last year. This Branch was the recipient of gifts of money from the Fruitvale and Sequoia Parent-Teacher Associations, and from Mrs. Lathrop, who has annually presented it with money for children's books at Christmas time. Dimond also makes a very large use of main Library books through the Interchange Service, more than 6,000 books having been sent this year to supplement the Branch collection.

The Allendale Branch, which also shows a substantial gain in circulation of over 6,000 ,was moved late in the year to quarters much more attractive and convenient than those formerly occupied.

Smaller gains in circulation were reported from other Branches, and even where a small loss is shown it can partially be accounted for by some adverse condition which could not entirely be overcome by an increase in the book supply. There is no doubt, however, after a careful consideration of the statistics, and a survey of the neighborhoods and conditions surrounding each Branch, that books—more books—are the great need.

Especial emphasis has been placed on the work with children and young people this year. Every effort has been made to build up the depleted book collections in the Branch children's rooms; books and pamphlets for Boy Scouts were purchased for each Branch and displayed on separate shelves with a poster (and, often, nothing is to be seen there but the poster!); special exhibits were held in three Branches during Children's Book Week; many talks were made before Parent-Teacher Associations at that time; and special consideration was given this subject at Branch and Staff meetings throughout the year. Cooperation with neighboring schools has continued to be an important branch activity, and the five Stations in or near schools, four of which are in charge of library assistants, report an increased interest in the library, and a larger circulation of juvenile books. Although the discards and losses were very heavy, so that only a comparatively small gain in the total of children's books in the Branches is shown by the annual count, the gain in juvenile circulation this year was over 40,000, more than fifty per cent of the total

gain in circulation. To speculate as to the result if each Branch could have only as much as a thousand dollars a year for children's books is but to create a modern fairy tale with the ancient ending, "and they all lived happily ever after."

But one bit of extension work was undertaken during the year. The Montgomery-Ward Station was opened on October 15th, 1925, and although small in numbers, the circulation shows a steady growth, the library apparently filling a real need among the employees of this institution. Another small advance is the opening of all of the Stations except Stonehurst during the summer, where formerly two or more were closed during the vacation period. This is an experiment, but it is hoped that the continuity of service will bring good results when school opens again in the fall. The Columbian Park Station has outgrown its present quarters and is sadly in need of more room in which to expand. The work here has developed in a most satisfactory manner, and under favorable conditions, will undoubtedly grow with the neighborhood. The demand from Beulah Heights community for a Station is most insistent, and it is hoped that it will be possible to give some Library service here before long. Next to books, a need for small stations to reach readers who are not within walking distance of a library seems to be most urgent. Some of these stations may develop into branches; many of them, if open a few hours each week, with a changing collection of books and library service, would continue to fill the need for some time. In this way, it would seem, the somewhat shifting population of a large and growing city might be served with reading material until residence and business districts become more clearly defined, and some degree of permanence can be assured.

The Branch Department has met as effectively as possible the additional demands made upon it by a larger book fund, necessitating more time for book selection, ordering, cataloging, etc.; a somewhat larger Interchange Service; and the time of one assistant on two afternoons a week at the Alexander Community House Station. This latter duty came as an alternative to closing the Station, as the teacher who had charge of it last year was unable to continue the work. The system of handling the "Branch Department" books, which are sent for a limited time, was changed, and these books are now sent for three months only, no cards being written for them. The problem of keeping the Branches supplied with popular nonfiction is a somewhat difficult one, especially as most of the books of this class are very expensive, yet often of quite transitory interest.

The new rule permitting a borrower to take five books instead of two has afforded great satisfaction, and undoubtedly has had some effect on the circulation at the Branches.

This year also, page service has been installed in the five larger Branches thus relieving the Branch Librarian and her assistant of much of the work of shelving books, and enabling them to devote more time to the public.

The increased activities of the Branches have reacted favorably on all phases of the work. and a successful year and hopeful outlook have made for better and more efficient service.

STATISTICS

Circulation	814,578	Gain	66,939	Per cent gained	8.9

Interchange Service

Circulation	36,810	Gain	1,154
No. of calls rec'd	53,706	No. of calls filled	38,455
Average daily number of calls	177	Percentage filled	71
		Branch Interchange	3,414

Volumes Accessioned	
Purchased 8,945; Gift, 1,205; Bindery, 73; Exchange, 6; Total	10,229
Volumes Cataloged	10,940
Pamphlets cataloged, etc.	3,505
Volumes sent to Stations	5,868
New titles	911
Cards written and sent to Branches	12,678
Cards transferred to Branches	1,955
Cards filed	21,174
Magazines prepared for circulation	9,061
Books prepared for circulation	10,940
Volumes rebound	4,881
Volumes discarded	5,141
Gibson collection (Melrose)	
Purchased	354
Cataloged	367

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

The Library has played its part in the various "Weeks," with poster showings, book displays, talks, and attendance at meetings. The Merchant Marine Week held by the libraries of California in cooperation with the Seaman's Church Institute was set for April 19 to 24, and the Library and the branches gathered several hundred books for this worthy cause.

Miss Curtis, of the Alden Branch, has made many talks to P. T. A.'s as mentioned by Miss Nye in her report, and also has spoken before several of the service clubs. The most unusual thing she has done, however, was a series of four talks over the General Electric radio station KGO. These were on sea experiences, but tied up to the Library by mention of books on similar subjects to be found on the shelves. These talks were a great success.

The Rotary Club gave the Librarian the meeting of October 15, to make a library showing. State Librarian Ferguson was the principal speaker, but Miss Curtis also had a part, and the occasion was graced by the attendance of three of the Directors.

The Librarian has also addressed various bodies on Library or literary subjects, among them Miss Merriman's school, the English Club of Pacific Union College, and the Napa Rotary Club.

To the Yosemite Exhibition of the California Historical Society, the Library loaned several items, among them a letter written by John Muir, the first President of the Sierra Club, to Professor Wm. D. Armes, its first Secretary, approving the idea of forming such a club and offering to assist.

Much more than the usual amount of newspaper publicity has been given the Library during the year, and I wish to make my personal acknowledgement to the press for its uniformly generous treatment of Library matters. I have been sure that I could depend on the papers to insert anything that could reasonably be offered to them, and that their editorial policy would be fair and kind.

Another activity, which is not outside,—though would it were!—is a battle with white ants. These pests have appeared this spring for the first time in eight years, and it has required the services of expert cyaniders to control them. Their favorite diet is oak wood.

CONFERENCES

The Seattle Conference of the American Library Association was mentioned in last year's Report, though its dates, July 6 to 11, 1925, were all in the year covered by the present issue. This year's conference is to be held in October, to include the exact semi-centennial of the founding of the Association in Philadelphia at the Exposition. In preparation for that all the libraries of the country have been making unusual efforts this year, among them being the filling out of elaborate questionnaires to make a complete survey, the results of which are to be published in a series of volumes. Much material has been sent out for release in the newspapers, the library progress of fifty years and the hope for the half century to follow have been the theme of conferences, articles, and talks innumerable.

The California Library Association has been active in this way, and its First District, to which Oakland belongs, held a successful meeting on February 6th at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco. The ruling subject there was "Adult Education," a theme that has occupied the attention of librarians in a growing degree for several years. The State Conference was held at Long Beach, from June 2 to 5, and was a notable meeting. From this Library went Miss Mincher, head of the Golden Gate Branch, Miss Morgan, chief of the Children's Department, and the Librarian. Full reports of the meeting have been given at two Staff meetings, where Misses Mincher and Morgan showed that they had taken the opportunity most seriously and really brought home much of the spirit of the Conference. The Librarian was honored by being asked to write the official report of the Conference for NEWS NOTES. He also served on the Committee on Resolutions, and spoke to the County Librarians and at a general session.

Staff meetings and the luncheons of the East Bay Library Council have been well kept up with good attendance and interesting programs.

CONCLUSION

This is the last annual report that I shall make; for by unanimous vote of the Civil Service Board, and on my request, of the Library Board and the City Council, I shall retire on half pay on December 31, 1926, after twenty-seven and a half years of service. During that time the Library has grown from 28,465 volumes to 145,982; the circulation, from 154,437 to 1,157,811; the cardholders, from 9,755 to 60,373; the agencies, from a library and five reading rooms to a library, thirteen branches, seven stations, an art gallery, and two museums; the staff, from 19 to 135; the budget, from $17,809.94 to $187, 254.61. With the exception of but two or three members, the governing boards of all these years have been uniformly considerate and cooperative, and the staff has been so loyal and devoted to its task that it has been a delight to work happily with them and to see things prosper under our hands, building together so unitedly that in but very few matters could it be said just who devised this or that improvement.

Into whatever life awaits I shall carry a heart full of gratitude to my City Oakland for the honors it has given me, and an affectionate memory of the hundreds and thousands of friends I have made both in and out of the library organization.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. S. GREENE,

Librarian.

OAKLAND FREE LIBRARY—HOME CIRCULATION—LIBRARY AND BRANCHES

	Library	Alden	Allend.	Dimond	East O.	Elmhurst	Fruitvale	G. Gate	Melrose	North O.
1919-20	264,337	70,714	12,072	51,829	66,389	46,390	47,895	47,884	51,981	45,999
1920-21	270,580	66,865	10,541	58,300	63,164	54,086	52,578	49,711	58,630	47,661
1921-22	279,935	70,625	23,107	63,792	67,430	56,498	56,672	54,681	63,354	50,659
1922-23	273,775	66,795	37,741	66,228	61,456	48,999	52,387	51,217	61,991	49,027
1923-24	274,919	63,453	39,775	72,052	59,548	50,663	49,616	50,382	63,030	44,317
1924-25	283,543	62,218	43,286	77,273	51,969	51,329	48,965	50,795	62,138	45,264
1925-26	299,667	63,747	50,111	84,057	56,432	49,614	51,000	51,938	66,960	47,353

	Pied. Av.	Rock R.	23d. Av.	West O.	Alexdr.	Col. Pk.	Gen. El.	Harrsn.	Lockwd.	McChes.
1919-20	61,081	40,651	47,047	32,944	1,722	---- ------	1,576	1,660	7,643	11,353
1920-21	67,680	56,140	43,716	40,879	862	---- ------	1,428	1,559	4,614	13,424
1921-22	69,538	67,537	52,764	38,917	997	---- ------	1,659	1,176	5,813	11,332
1922-23	65,320	67,699	54,139	36,972	913	---- ------	1,280	1,045	7,239	6,810
1923-24	73,821	62,836	50,746	37,471	1,181	---- ------	1,467	882	12,693	6,509
1924-25	74,473	63,407	49,142	37,338	1,422	3,872	634	966	13,884	6,956
1925-26	73,362	88,881	48,644	36,530	3,540	14,415	368	---- ------	15,360	7,632

	Mont. W.	Stone-hurst	Union	Total Branches	Grand Total
1919-20	--------	--------	737	647,477	911,814
1920-21	--------	--------	2,370	694,208	964,788
1921-22	--------	--------	1,271	757,822	1,036,857
1922-23	--------	--------	998	738,356	1,012,031
1923-24	--------	--------	77	741,220	1,016,139
1924-25	--------	2,219	89	747,639	1,031,182
1925-26	2,728	1,906	--------	814,578	1,114,245

Oakland Free Library

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

Statistics According to Form Adopted by American Library Association.

Annual Report for year ending June 30, 1926
Name of Librarian: Chas S. Greene.

Date of founding: 1868 as Ass'n. Library; 1878 as Free Public Library.

Population served (estimated) 300,000
Assessed valuation of city $244,105,110.00
Assessed valuation is what percent of true cash value:
Real Estate, 50%; Personal, 60%
Rate of tax levy for library purposes ..... .0762

Terms of Use: Free for lending and reference to residents of Oakland and Piedmont; $3.00 per year to others (Contract with City of Piedmont to serve Piedmont residents)

Total number of agencies 21
Consisting of Central Library 1
Branches (4 in Carnegie Buildings, 5 in rented buildings, 4 in rented stores) 13
Stations (3 in School Buildings, 1 in Church, 1 in Factory, 1 in Community House, 1 in Mail Order House) 7

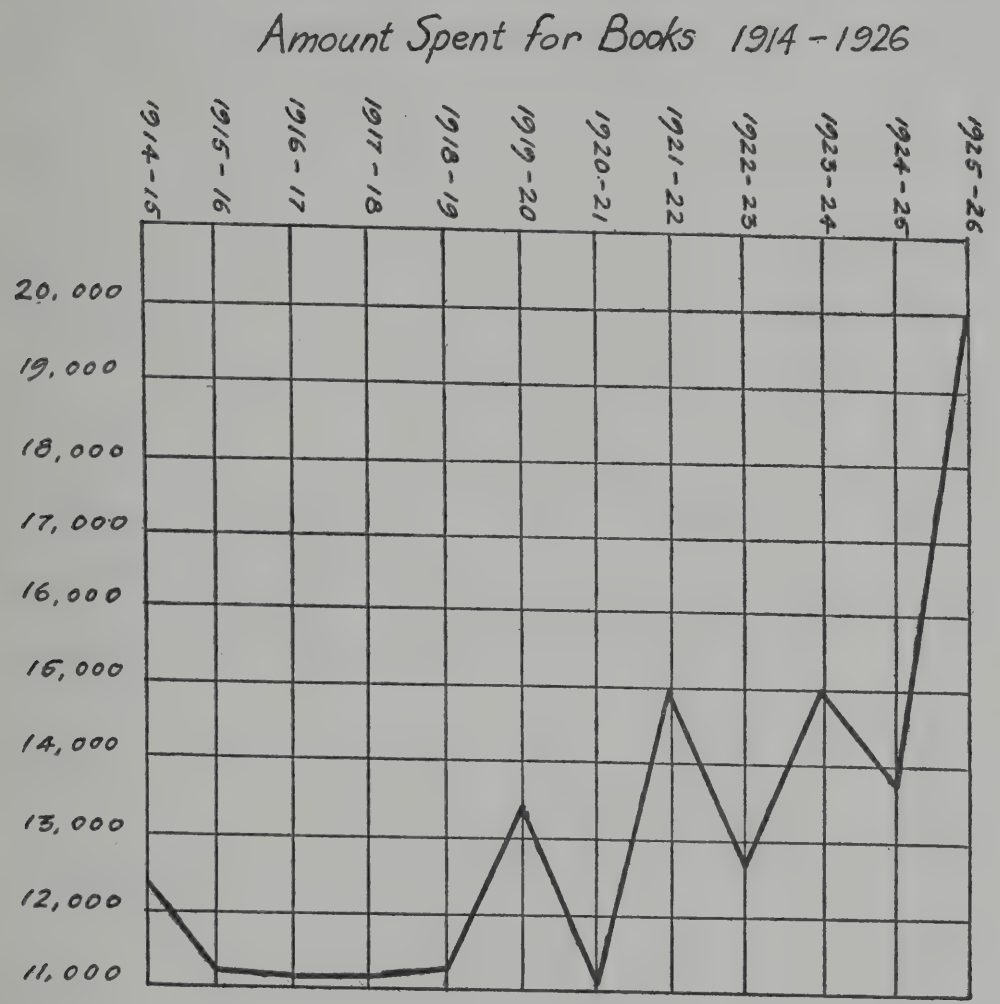
Museums and Art Gallery also under control of Library Board, but do not circulate books.

Central Libraries and Branches open for lending 302 days, 72 hours per week; for reading (Periodical room of Library) 76 hours per week; for study (Reference Room of Library) 78 hours per week.

INCREASE

Volumes at beginning of year	140,731
Added by purchase, 14,178; Gift and exchange, 1,549; Binding, 282; Total, 16,009; Volumes withdrawn, 6,970; Missing, 3,788; Gain	5,251
Volumes at end of year	145,982
Pamphlets at beginning of year	60,346
Pamphlets added, 6,909; withdrawn, 1,978; Gain	4,931
Pamphlets at end of year	65,277
Pictures, stereographs, posters, added during the year	1,068
Pictures, stereographs, posters, at end of the year	80,048
Maps added	109
Total Maps at end of the year	3,472

Anthems and Choral Music added, 491; withdrawn, 130; Gain	361
Anthems and Choral Music at end of year	23,336
Number of newspapers and periodicals currently received	1,312



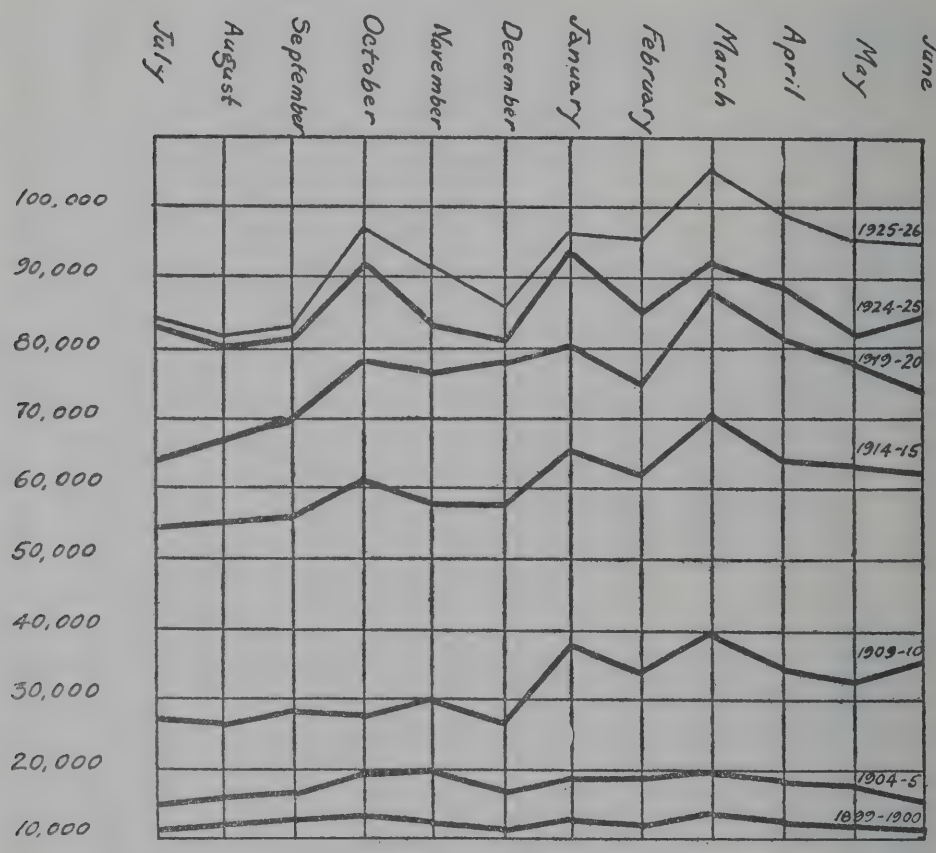
USE

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Volumes lent for home use, fiction	469,210	254,806	724,016
Total volumes lent for home use	745,150	369,095	1,114,245
Per cent fiction lent of total volumes			64.98
Circulation per capita			3.70
Pictures and prints loaned for home use			43,566

REGISTRATION

Cards issued, 28,827; cards expired, 28,681; net gain	146
Total number of registered borrowers	60,373
Registration period	2 years
Per cent registered borrowers of population served	20.12

Circulation by Years and Months 1899 - 1926



STAFF

Number of Staff—Central Library, 56; Branches, 44; Art Gallery, 2; Museum, 8; Snow Museum, 7; Total 117; Janitors, 18; Grand Total, 135.

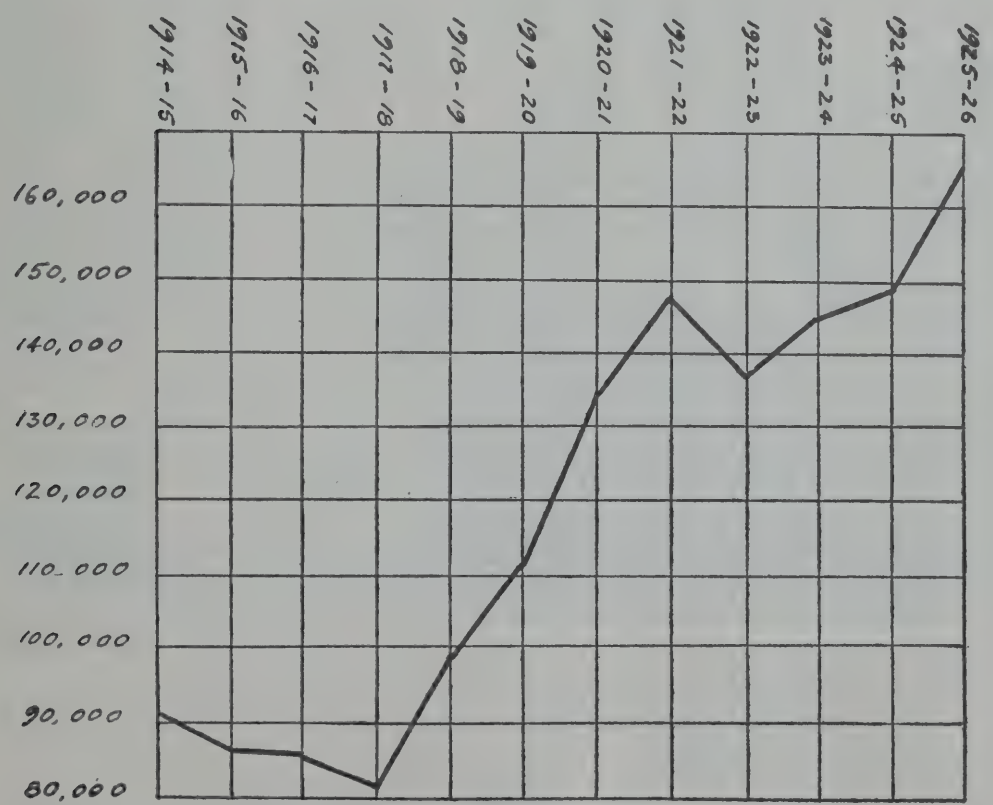
RECEIPTS FROM—

Taxes	$175,000.00
Fines, $6317.29; Accrual, $10.04	6,327.33
Lost Books	401.16
Piedmont Contract, $1125; Accrual, $375	1,500.00
H. D. W. Gibson Endowment	450.00
Donations	1,713.30
Refund, freight	13.90
Sales of Service, $184.07; Accrual, $7.00	191.07
Transfer from back year funds	3,055.60
	$188,652.36
Journal enteries for Prior Years	50.56
Total	$188 702.92

EXPENDITURES FOR—

Librarians salaries	$ 99,395.03
Books	20,992.57
Periodicals	3,998.96
Binding and Binding Supplies	5,675.09
Stationery and Supplies, Printing	2,472.42
Furniture and equipment	2,717.07
Telephone, postage, express, freight, carfare	916.93
Janitors and mechanics salaries	12,271.18
Cleaning supplies and equipment	640.79
Bldg. repairs and minor alterations	1,846.43
Rent	7,852.91
Light, Heat, and Water	4,454.66
Insurance	751.34
Miscellaneous, incl. Convention expenses	936.18
Total, Library and Branches	$164.921.56
Art Gallery	4,289.91
Museum	6,897.11
Snow Museum	11,146.03
Prior Year Bills	50.56
Total	$187,305.17
Balance, $1,005.71; Accrual, $392.04	1,397.75
Grand Total	$188,702.92
Maintenance expenditure per volume of circulation	.148
Maintenance expenditure per capita	.55

Total Expenditures. 1914-1926



OAKLAND ART GALLERY REPORT

To the Honorable
The Board of Directors
of the Oakland Free Library.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Our growth is getting so much ahead of our income and gallery space that two things are becoming more necessary every day,—a building devoted entirely to the Gallery, with large storage and packing space, and a suitable income for maintenance and operation.

During 1925–26 the Oakland Art Gallery advanced greatly in efficiency, popularity, and in quality of exhibitions shown. It was owing to this advance that the amount allowed by the City for operating proved so inadequate; it was expended long before the close of the fiscal year. For this reason no special exhibition was possible for June. However, the excess of expenditure over what was allowed spread the fame of Oakland throughout the West as a cultural center, a fact that is to receive recognition by the convention of the Western Association of Art Museum Directors in our Gallery July 24, 1926.

There has been great increase in the general business of the Gallery,—so great that often twelve to fifteen hours must be spent here, bringing the average close to eight hours per day throughout the year.

Packing, shipping, and storage facilities in the Gallery have been improved during the year.

In November, 1925, and again at a recent date, a plan for the revival of the Oakland Art Association or for the formation of a Museum Patrons' Association was submitted to the Library Board, both verbally and in writing, but did not meet with their approval in the form submitted. The same plan met with the full approval of Dr. William S. Porter, president of the old Association, which has been defunct for over seven years, and to whom the Board referred us. Dr. Porter, however, did not consider the time propitious. So we find ourselves back to where we started,—the favorable time gone.

Teas, lectures, private views, and monthly concerts were given during the greater part of the year, and were successful in adding to the interest and enjoyment of our public.

The concerts were sponsored by the Alameda County Federation of Women's Clubs, a committee of which held a meeting in the Gallery in October. Every month thereafter the committee co-operated with us in giving the concerts, which were free, and much appreciated by the public.

Many paintings were offered during the year, but these were not of a quality to justify acceptance. The number of academic paintings in the permanent collection is already too great for a well balanced representation, and this calls for a higher standard for future acquisitions than has seemed desirable in the past.

A gift to the Gallery of a large Italian painting was accepted from Mr. Griffith Henshaw.

Important exhibitions held during the year were:

Paintings and drawings by William V. Cahill. It was in honor of the late Mr. Cahill that the first big public tea was given in the Gallery by Mrs. Fred Gray Ruthrauff and assistants.

The Russian Exhibition, unusually large for a traveling show, and through which we received much publicity.

The New Mexico Painters, a modernistic group of Santa Fe artists.

COURTESY OAKLAND OBSERVER

THE ARTIST'S DREAM — A. B. EBERLING

Gift to Oakland Art Gallery by Mr. Wm. G. Henshaw.

Still life water colors by Cora M. Boone, supervisor of art in the Oakland public schools, and water color landscapes by Ethel M. Abeel. The supervisors of the Board of Education gave a reception and tea in honor of these two women which was largely attended.

The Print Makers' Society of California, a traveling show that is always welcomed by public and artists alike.

The 1926 Annual Exhibition of the Oakland Art Gallery, which was by far the most successful we have ever held,—in number of pictures, especially from out of town, in quality, attendance, and in appreciation expressed. It brought more publicity than any event in the Gallery to date. The most elaborate private view we have had was made unusually attractive by the serving of tea from old Russian samovars. The refreshments were donated and served by Mrs. Ruthrauff's group of hostesses.

Water colors by Alfred Hayward of Philadelphia were well liked.

Traveling exhibition of the California Society of Etchers.

Annual Exhibition of Oakland's own "Society of Six", which was sent on tour over the Western circuit. Refreshments, furnished by the Six, were served by a dozen young ladies,—a decidedly colorful event, well attended.

Exhibition of ultra - modern paintings, the "Blue Four", by world renowned European artists—the most radical ever held in this part of the country. This has also been started on tour by the Western Association of Art Museum Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM H. CLAPP,

Director

OAKLAND PUBLIC MUSEUM REPORT

To the Honorable
The Board of Directors
of the Oakland Free Library.

Gentlemen:

The following is the annual report of the Oakland Public Museum for the year ending June 30, 1926.

Because of small staff and funds, together with some months of illness of staff members, our sixteenth year suffered many disadvantages. Nevertheless there has been progress, and some things we have begun will show completion in the near future. Our limited activities are often a source of regret, but yet we are receiving recognition among those in the same field of endeavor.

This refers to recent publications,—one, entitled "The Museum", by Margaret Talbot Jackson, shows a view of our Colonial kitchen; another, "Taxidermy and Museum Exhibition", by John John Rowley, is illustrated with our deer and eagle groups; three prints of our educational extension cases will appear in a book soon to be published by Anna V. Dorris, head of the Department of Visual Instruction in the Berkeley schools. These individuals are noted in their special spheres of activity, and that they have chosen us from amongst the many is indeed evidence of their appreciation. To the above publications may be added the book entitled "Story of Rancho Antonio", a history of early Oakland by Daisy W. deVeer, which carries a number of pictures of our Museum material.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

For some season past special exhibits have been a feature at the Museum, and although they involve additional exertion, the publicity gained and the stimulated interest in the Museum as a whole,makes the undertaking one of importance, the hundreds of visitors attending them never fail to express their pleasure and appreciation of our efforts. This year in honor of the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, there was placed on exhibition for two weeks a combined display of material pertaining to these great men. Among the Washington relics were the Rembrandt Peale portrait in oil of Washington, a chair belonging to him when he resided in Philadelphia as President, and a silver lamp used by him at Mt. Vernon. Other treasures were jewelry and relics of Martha Washington, including gifts to her from George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette. With the exception of the portrait and chair loaned by Miss Edith Latham, the other material came to us from Mr. Parke Custis Upshur and Mrs. William H. Hunt, both descendants of Martha Washington.

The Lincoln relics consisted of the Lincoln whatnot, bill of sale, plaster bust, autographs, letters, documents, photographs and other objects of interest. Many of these were loaned through the kindness of Mrs. M. M. Dewing and Mr. E. R. Jackson. Altogether the display was quite remarkable, and that it was gathered together in this immediate locality made it even more so.

In April we again arranged for our annual special Wild Flower Show, which, notwithstanding most discouraging weather conditions, was a marked success. As is the usual custom, the show was opened with an evening session. The speakers were Mrs. D. W. Hollingsworth, formerly of the Museum Staff, who spoke on the introduction of botanical exhibits as a special department at the Museum; and Dr. P.B. Kennedy of the University of California, who read a paper indicating the possible dangers to California flora as the result of indiscriminate gathering of flowers for flower shows.

Specimens numbering 250 varieties were shown, and these, with the added attraction of Miss Cole's flower studies, made a most charming display.

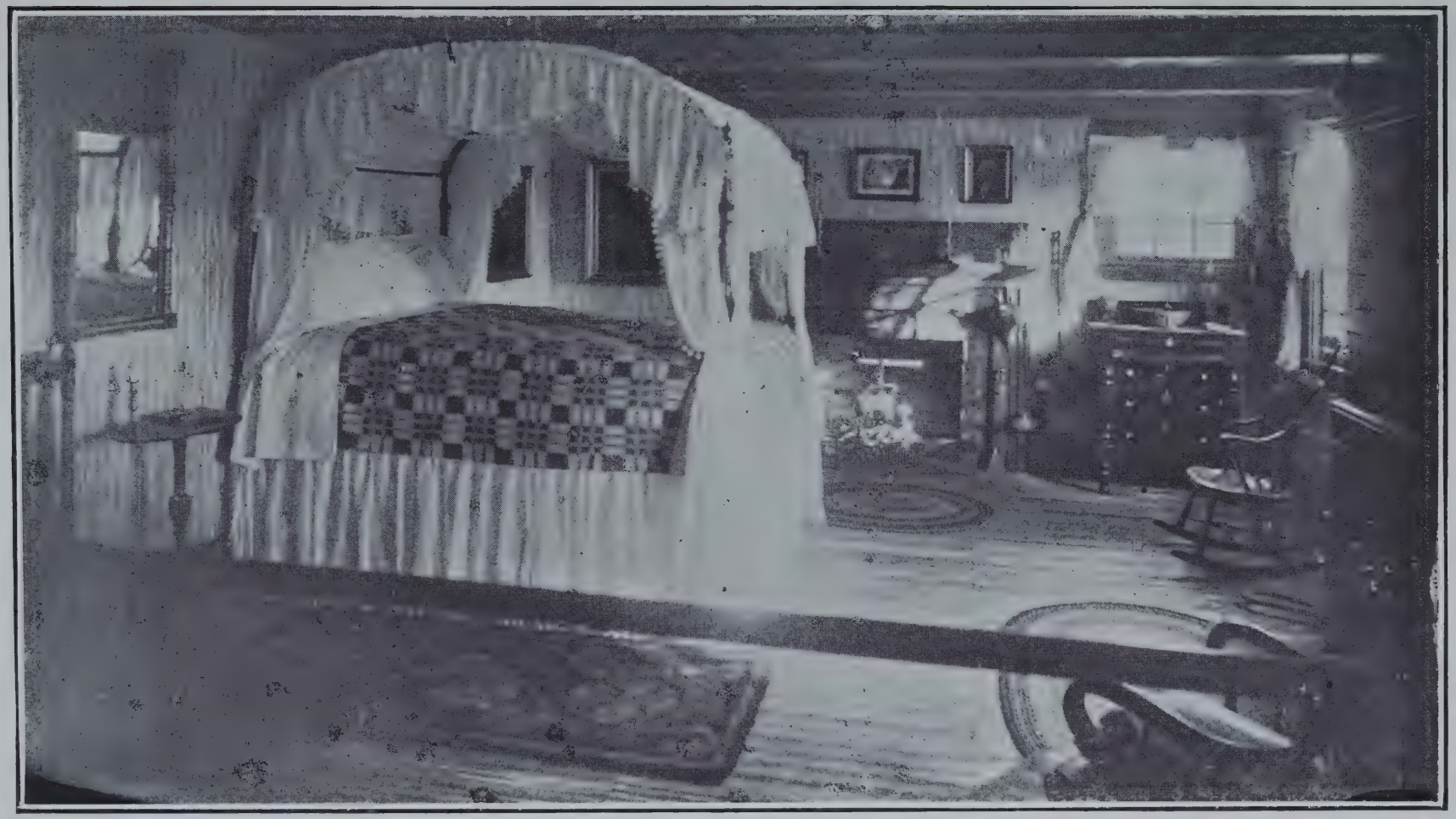
We give grateful acknowledgement to those kindly disposed contributors who helped at both the special and regular exhibits; these include California Spring Blossom and Wild Flower Society of San Francisco, Miss Alice Griffith, Mrs. Sadie Matherson, Miss Nydine Snow, Mrs. Herbert Morell, Mrs. R. C. Cummins, Mrs. R. C. Sweet, Dr. M. M. Halverson, Mrs. Richard Fricke, Mr. L. C. Remick, A. T. Graff, Mr .Martin Jussel, and Miss Constance Johnson. Of particular note is the valuable assistance given by Miss Harriet Walker of the Herbarium, University of California, who never fails us in the solving of puzzling identifications.

As far as is known our flower exhibit is the only one exclusively native in its character that is continuously maintained.

BUILDING

As before stated, many plans for the improvement of the building exhibits could not be carried out. However, the rehabilitation of the former Peary room was completed with the exception of the papering and painting. Work here consisted of replacing a partition, boarding up three windows, and building two cases lengthwise of the room. When entirely finished the room will contain costumes and wearing apparel, which will release space much needed for the display of California and general history material.

Care of the building has consisted of roof repairs, the usual cleaning, and the



COLONIAL BEDROOM, OAKLAND PUBLIC MUSEUM.

thorough renovation of the rooms on the main attic floor, office attic, lantern room, uppershop and hardwood floors. In addition, there was a complete rearrangement of the stored material, this giving more usable space in the attic quarters.

The usual cleaning of cases and specimens received due attention, though we should like more time to spend upon them. The outside of the building is so unsightly from the lack of paint that we consider special effort is necessary for a pleasing interior.

EXTENSION WORK

There is again the disheartening report in regard to our school extension work; for, while we have loaned many specimens and given an increased number of talks, the work is on no organized basis. Teachers report the need of our material as an aid in instruction, but the difficulty in obtaining and returning it prevents their use of it. That a nearby community doing extension work considers our educational cases superior in arrangement to any yet made makes our non-use of them more to be deplored.

Aside from school loans, our mounted birds have been in demand by Mrs. A. J. Pillsbury, of the Federation of Women's Clubs, Mr C. A. Harwell, a clever imitator of bird calls, the Boy Scouts, and some of the business houses. Other material has been requested by clubs, business houses, the Library, and various theatres. All borrowers have been both careful and appreciative. Loaned specimens totaled 427.

Applications for the use of the lecture room have increased during the year. Among them were, a Numerology Club, Philosophical Society, The Striped Bass Club (a Fisherman's organization), Boy Scouts, Art Section of the Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Poster Show of the Latham Foundation for the promotion of humane education. Many friends have thus been made for this institution.

MISCELLANEOUS

The kindly interest of many of the newspapers in giving the Museum publicity has been both gratifying and helpful.—for which we desire to express our thanks.

Accessions to our collection during the year by donation amount to 777 specimens, by loan 15 specimens. They include antiques, ethnology, coins, natural history, weapons, fossils, minerals, stamps, and historical material. The number of reinstallations totaled 240 specimens.

In closing, I wish to extend my appreciation to the Board of Directors and the Secretary for their kindly cooperation and support.

Respectfully submitted,

SUSIE W. MOTT,

Director Pro Tem.

SNOW AFRICAN MUSEUM REPORT

To the Honorable
The Board of Directors
of the Oakland Free Library.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The following is the report of the Snow African Museum for the year ending June 30, 1926.

We come to the end of our fourth year, with little progress to relate. We did have high hopes for 1925 and 1926, but we seem further away from our goal than ever before. We can report no plans for a new building.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

During the year the Museum got behind two gigantic displays. We loaned mounted animals, birds, skins, pictures, etc., which were made into enormous groupings which created a lot of attention. We loaned both African and Arctic material and worked with the concerns in both cases. One lot was loaned to the B. F. Schlesinger Company of Oakland, and the other to the Don Lee Cadillac Company of San Francisco. For ourselves, we received a lot of publicity and made a good many new friends. Totaling up other loans, we find we have loaned 265 specimens to other concerns and organizations.

Mr. Snow was absent on an eastern picture trip for seven months of the year. And it was only because of poor health that he returned then. Here his sickness became so grave that he was rushed to a hospital, where little hope was held out for his recovery. However, after a two-months up-hill battle, he insisted he was well enough to leave the hospital, so came home, and has gradually improved since.

In March, 1926, the Zoo was moved to its new site at Sequoia Park. Immediately all wreckage and debris was cleared away, and now the lawns are all planted. Once the grass is up, it will greatly improve the appearance of this whole corner.

During the year two zebras were mounted, two large male walrus heads, one wild horse head, two leopards, a rabbit, and a few birds, and other small animals.

In February the barrel money was counted, and it totaled one hundred and sixty-eight dollars and fourteen cents, ($168.14).

Because of illness and a long absence there were only nine public talks given by Mr. Snow.

STAFF

In September, 1925, Mrs. Dunlap handed in her resignation. In June she was reappointed as a substitute.

In December, Mr. Chas. A. Hill asked for six-months leave of absence, because of ill health. This he was granted.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In recognition of the favors done by our Honorable Mayor, also the Board of Library Directors and their Secretary, Mr. Chas. S. Greene, I wish to express our appreciation and thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
NYDINE SNOW,
Museum Assistant.